

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Yoichi Okano	Examiner:	Colleen A. Hoar
Serial No:	10/714,770	Art Unit:	4172
Filed:	November 17, 2003	Docket:	17236
For:	ARTICLE INFORMATION PROVIDING SYSTEM AND ARTICLE INFORMATION PROVIDING SERVER	Dated:	May 15, 2008

Confirmation No. 2411

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-184396, dated July 6, 2001.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on May 15, 2008.

Dated: May 15, 2008


Katherine R. Vieyra

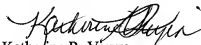
The reference was cited in an Official Action dated April 22, 2008 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the above-cited reference required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (ii), the Official Action, and an English translation of the Examiner's comments regarding the reference from the Official Action. The relevance of the reference is described in the Official Action.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of portions of an Official Action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Further, inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is also being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), a statement is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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